



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 13, 2006 06-05

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Grand Teton National Park News Release

Search Conducted for Lost Snowshoer in Granite Canyon

Grand Teton National Park rangers along with Teton Country Search and Rescue volunteers and search dog teams from Wyoming K-9 and High Country K-9 conducted a search on Saturday evening, February 11, for a 71-year-old man who became lost while snowshoeing in the vicinity of Granite Canyon. Bob Trailbridge of Farmington, Connecticut was located at 11:45 p.m. on Saturday night after he became disoriented while on a solitary snowshoe hike in the park.

Teton Interagency Dispatch Center received a cell phone call at 6 p.m. Saturday evening from Trailbridge's daughter, Betsy, who reported that her father was overdue from a snowshoe hike in the Granite Canyon area. The temperature at 6 p.m. was already minus 6 degrees below zero and dropping. Park rangers began coordinating search operations that would ultimately include Teton County Search and Rescue personnel on cross-country skis and two K-9 dog teams.

Rangers were able to connect with Trailbridge via cell phone and through the conversation it was determined that he had evidently wandered onto a steep skier trail located 400 feet above the floor of Granite Canyon; the trail is used by backcountry skiers as they exit the canyon to return to the Jackson Hole Mountain Resort at Teton Village. Two rescuers on skis made their way to Trailbridge, reaching him at 11:45 p.m. They accompanied him to the Granite Canyon trailhead, arriving at 1:30 a.m. on Sunday morning.

Trailbridge began his snowshoe hike at 11 a.m. on Saturday. He was carrying little in the way of extra food, water or winter clothing that might have assisted him in spending an unexpected night out in subzero weather. He had informed his daughter of where he was going and when he planned to return, which initially helped to direct the search operation.

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